

Message Text

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DEPARTMENT PASS INTERIOR BUREAU OF MINES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EMIN, BL

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE TRADE OPPORTUNITY: ANTIMONY VOLATILIZATION:
TIN SMELTER

1. ENAF, BOLIVIAN STATE SMELTING AND REFINING COMPANY IS STUDYING POSSIBILITY OF BUILDING SECOND ANTIMONY SMELTER IN SOUTH OF BOLIVIA. ANTIMONY SMELTER NOW IN VINTO NEAR ORURO WAS BUILT BY CZECHS BUT ENAF WOULD PREFER TO USE DIFFERENT TECHNOLOGY IN ITS SECOND PLANT IN SOUTH. THIS WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR U.S. TO ENTER SMELTING-REFINING SECTOR IN BOLIVIA WHICH UNTIL NOW HAS BEEN DOMINATED MAINLY BY GERMANS AND RUSSIANS.

2. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING NAMES OF COMPANIES WHO HAVE NECESSARY TECHNOLOGY FOR VOLATILIZATION OF ANTIMONY AND OTHER LIST OF COMPANIES WHO ARE CAPABLE OF DOING FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR SUCH A PLANT.

3. ENAF HAS POSTPONED PLANS TO BUILD A ZINC REFINERY (80 TO 100,000 MT) UNTIL 1985 IN ORDER TO STUDY ZINC RESERVES AND SMELTING TECHNOLOGY MORE THOROUGHLY. KLOCKNER (GERMANY) IS DOING FEASIBILITY STUDY. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING LIST OF U.S. COMPANIES WHO POSSESS NON-CONVENTIONAL TECHNOLOGY FOR SMELTING OF ZINC, I.E. PROCESSES THAT DO NOT USE COAL AS REDUCING AGENT. COAL IS NOT AVAILABLE IN BOLIVIA ALTHOUGH CHARCOAL IS USED IN SMELTING

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PROCESSES HERE.

4. EMBASSY WILL KEEP WASHINGTON INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS IN
THIS FIELD AND WILL ESPECIALLY WATCH CLOSELY THE CALL
FOR BIDS ON FEASIBILITY STUDY, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF
ANTIMONY SMELTER.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

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